a master to have his men clever; but there are some who do not think so, and grind their men down so much in their wages, that if they *can* live better than paupers, they have not a penny left for improvement, moral or otherwise. An establishment recently lauded by one of your contemporaries, does more in a week towards debasing the intellect of those who work for them, by placing it out of their power to devote either time or money to the acquirement of knowledge, than you or a dozen like you can do to elevate them in the scale of intellectual beings in a month. And this is not the only evil, for by their grinding system they are enabled to produce an article bearing the name, and approaching the outward appearance, of a similar one, and of course at a much less price than that made by a house that pays its workmen living wages,—so similar that the uninitiated are deceived; and, struck by the difference in price, purchase the lowest, and only find out their error when it is *too* late; for in this, as in the case of the quack and physician, there are nineteen fools to one wise man: the quacks get the nineteen and make a fortune: the honest tradesman gets the one and just lives. In the face of such doings it seems almost hopeless to strive, for whilst the public grasp at the cheapest with so much avidity, they are encouraging a class of men, who are daily and hourly lowering the character of the workmen, in fact reducing them and their families to a degree scarcely above a "pauper," by their grinding system.

One who Works.

CHURCH NEWS.

Canterbury.—St. Margaret's church has undergone some extensive repairs and alterations. The chancel has been terminated by an apse, which removed the slanting end. The southern aisle has been slightly shortened, and by opening two arches under the tower a baptistry has been formed. A vestry has been added on the northern side opposite to the southern entrance-door. A stair turret has been placed at the north-western corner of the tower which serves as a support, and supplies a means of access to the belfry. The mullions have been restored in the windows, and the church cased with flint, having stone dressings. The interior of the apse has been fitted up with open seats of oak, and a slightly raised floor has been extended from the entrance of the apse to the length of the eastern arcade.

Maidstone.—It is proposed to enlarge St. Peter's church, by extending the present transept and west end so as to obtain altogether about 1,000 sittings, of which 554 will be free. There will thus be 350 additional free sittings. The sum required will be about 1,200*l.*

Cheltenham.—The alterations and improvements in the parish church of St. Mary, which have been proceeding for several weeks past under the superintendence of Messrs. Humphris and Mr. Dangerfield, are now completed. Increased accommodation has been obtained for about 100 persons, by the removal of the old school-room and the wall which separated it from the church, and the erection of a new gallery. The roof of the north gallery has been new timbered and renovated. More light has been introduced by the construction of a window in the front wall of the porch, and several ventilators have been formed in the galleries.

Greinton.—The chancel of the church, dedicated to St. Michael and All Angels, at Greinton, is being restored and beautified, under the superintendence of Mr. D. Mackintosh, of Exeter. The east window, by Mr. Alfred Bear, of Exeter, contains figures of the Saviour's crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, surmounted by angels bearing sacred emblems. The side windows contain figures of Sts. Peter, Andrew, Philip, James, John, and Paul, the rest of the lights being filled in with ornaments in the Early English style. These windows are the gift of Mr. S. T. Kekewich, of Pamore, lord of the manor.

Stanton (Chippenham).—The repairs of the larger part of the parish church of Stanton St. Quinton, having been completed, the 18th ult. was appointed to celebrate its restoration. The repair has been made at the expense of the patron, the Earl of Radnor, Viscount Folkestone, and the Rev. C. G. Cotes, the rector. It consists principally of the rebuilding of the south aisle and porch; and the general restitution of what was decayed in the tower and main body of the church. The interior has also been cleared and put into order; the pews being replaced by open seats, and the original oak roof being brought out by the removal of a modern ceiling. The space beneath the tower (which stands between the nave and chancel) has also been improved, by raising a low and heavy belfry floor, and by re-opening two old and badly displayed narrow light windows which were discovered blocked up by masonry in the thickness of the tower wall. The work was executed by Mr. Millar, of Seagry, under the direction of Mr. Hakewill, architect.

Lymm.—The parish church of Lymm, Cheshire, has been nearly altogether re-erected, and was consecrated on Thursday week. The lower portion of the tower of the old church, built as is supposed in 1522, was considered of sufficient strength to be allowed to stand. This, says the *Manchester Courier*, is the only portion of the ancient church retained. The edifice is in the decorated style, and consists of a nave, side aisles, transepts, and chancel. The tower is at the west end. In the south aisle stands an ancient arch, surrounding a pedestal which once held a piscina connected with the side altar. A chapel connected with the ancient church, belonging to the Domvilles, in the new edifice still appears. In different parts of the church are three stained-glass windows, executed by Wailes, of Newcastle. The first is in the south aisle, and is given by Mrs. Leigh, of Manor-cottage, York: the second is on the east side of the south transept, and is placed there by the late Rev. William Fox's surviving children: the third is in the Domville chapel, belonging to Lymm-hall, and is given by Mr. James Barratt, the proprietor. The church, as now restored, is expected to accommodate 916 persons, nearly one-half free. A carved head, found under the foundation of the old church, and which must have been of an earlier date than the church itself [built, it is supposed, in 1322], is now affixed on the south-east end of the church, near the door of the vestry. The stonework of the new building was given, for the most part, by Mr. Trafford Trafford, from a quarry near Outrington-hall. The pulpit also is built of stone from the quarry at Outrington, and appeared to the *Courier* greatly to resemble Caen stone. The architect is Mr. John Dobson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, the designer of the railway station in that town.

Otley.—Farnley Chapel has been rebuilt by Mr. F. H. Fawkes, of Farnley Hall.

CLERKENWELL IMPROVEMENT ACT.

This new Act transfers to the Corporation of London the powers given by earlier Acts to the Clerkenwell Improvement Commissioners, and empowers that body to borrow a sum not exceeding 80,000*l.* for the proposed improvements. It is enacted, by clause 1, that it should be lawful for the mayor, aldermen, and commons of the city of London, in council assembled, to complete the new street at Clerkenwell, and to alter and improve the line of the said new street, commencing at West-street, Saffron-hill, and terminating at Coppice-row, Clerkenwell. Also to widen and improve the eastern end of Charles-street, Great Saffron-hill; and to widen and improve the eastern end of Cross-street, Great Saffron-hill, and to form a new street from Great Saffron-hill through Larkwood-court, into the said first-mentioned new street.

Clauses from 6 to 9 inclusive, furnish power to the Corporation of the City of London, with reference to the removal of the burial-ground of the parish of St. James, situate in Ray-street, Clerkenwell, which they are authorised to lay—or any part thereof, as may be thought to be expedient—into the streets or ways; compensation for the same to be settled by the Lord Bishop of London for the time being.

The 12th and 13th clauses enact that as the improvements by the Act authorised to be made will dislodge many labourers, artisans, and other poor persons, it shall be lawful for the mayor, aldermen, and commons to erect and build on the land by this Act vested in or authorised to be purchased by them, or on land which may be purchased by them for that purpose, under the power hereinafter mentioned, such and so many improved dwellings and lodging-houses for the poor, and to fit up the same with such conveniences and in such manner as they shall from time to time think expedient, and to let the same when so erected, built, and fitted up as aforesaid, to such labourers, mechanics, and other poor persons, at such weekly and other rents, and upon such terms and conditions, as they shall see fit; the mayor, &c. to purchase any houses or land in the vicinity for such purpose.

We may hope now to see the new street completed: its present condition is very discreditable.

The last-named clauses are very important, and give an opportunity for the erection of properly adapted dwellings for the industrious classes which may have a good effect on similar erections by individuals afterwards.

RECOVERY OF BUILDERS' BILLS.

Chapman v. Waterlow.

This was an action in the Shoreditch County Court, September 27th, before Mr. Serjeant Storks, to recover the sum of 8*l.* for driving three piles in the river Thames for the purpose of mooring the oyster boats at Billingsgate Market.

The defendant, who is carpenter to the corporation of the city of London, disputed the claim on the ground that the work was so improperly performed that it was perfectly useless, the plaintiff having cut 5 feet off one of the piles, from which he was ordered by the clerk of the works to cut only 18 inches; and having also dug a hole 3 feet 6 inches deep to let in one of the piles instead of driving it from the surface.

The plaintiff, who is an experienced pile-driver, explained that the reason of his reducing the length was that the timber was not sound; and accounted for digging the hole in consequence of there being a complete forest of timber embedded in that part of the river, some of which was frequently found in a horizontal position. He had previously dug a depth of 2 feet 6 inches, and found an obstruction. The mode which he adopted was the proper one to ascertain whether there was any obstruction, after having probed the earth in the first instance, which was done. The piles were driven from 8 feet to 10 feet deep, and were sufficiently secure to answer every purpose.

Henry Lovell, one of the workmen employed by the plaintiff, deposed to the piles having been used for the purpose they were intended for ever since they were fixed, and that the work was substantially performed. Another witness gave similar evidence, and stated that during the last week he had counted no less than seventeen or eighteen vessels moored to the piles at one time.

His Honour asked the defendant's solicitor if he meant to contend that the plaintiff was entitled to nothing?—The defendant's solicitor said he did, and should be able to prove that the plaintiff had not only failed to use ordinary skill and judgment, but that he well knew at the time that he was not doing the work properly.

His Honour.—But why was not the City carpenter, who was the contractor, present to see that the work was properly executed. The plaintiff was merely the workman, and if the work was of any use he is entitled to something. You must prove that the work was of no value whatever.

The defendant's solicitor.—The plaintiff is not a journeyman, but a tradesman employed by the defendant.

His Honour.—But there is no special contract between the parties.

Defendant's solicitor.—But the work is so inefficiently executed that my client has been obliged to secure it for temporary purposes, and will be compelled to draw the piles and drive them again. The learned gentleman referred to Honour to the case of Farnesworth *v.* Garrod (1 Camp. 38.), which was an action brought to recover the value of work and labour in building a wall to a house, and in which case it was held by Lord Ellenborough that the action being for meritorious services, and there being no beneficial service, the plaintiff was not entitled to be paid.

His Honour.—I am obliged to you for so high an authority, which sustains all I have said. the case you have cited the work was not only use-

For info on PDF Compression and OCR visit our website